



PUBLIC NOTICE

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MEDIA BUREAU ANNOUNCES DATES FOR FILING COMMENTS AND REPLY COMMENTS ON CABLE INDUSTRY REPORT ON DOWNLOADABLE SECURITY

Comment Date: December 30, 2005

Reply Comment Date: January 17, 2006

On March 17, 2005, the Commission issued a *Second Report and Order* in CS Docket No. 97-80 (FCC 05-76), maintaining the ban on cable operator deployment of integrated set-top boxes, but deferring the effective date of the ban by 12 months from July 2006 to July 2007.¹ In the *Second Report and Order*, the Commission also imposed several reporting requirements to ensure that progress continues to be made toward the statutory goals of Section 629 of the Communications Act. Among these reporting requirements was a requirement that by December 1, 2005, the cable industry report to the Commission on the feasibility of implementing software-based conditional access in navigation devices.²

The cable industry filed the required report on November 30, 2005.³ The *Second Report and Order* stated that the public would have thirty days to comment following submission of the downloadable security report.⁴ Accordingly, comments are due December 30, 2005. In addition, we find that it is essential that the cable industry have a formal opportunity to respond to such comments. We therefore establish a reply comment deadline of January 17, 2006. We do not expect that the comment cycle will in any way delay progress on the development and deployment of downloadable security or the negotiations for a two-way plug and play specification.

For further information, contact Natalie Roisman of the Policy Division, Media Bureau, at 202-418-1655 or via email at Natalie.Roisman@fcc.gov.

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¹ *Implementation of Section 304 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996: Commercial Availability of Navigation Devices*, 20 FCC Rcd 6794 (2005) ("*Second Report and Order*").

² *Id.* at 6810, 6816.

³ Letter from Daniel L. Brenner and Neal M. Goldberg, NCTA, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC (Nov. 30, 2005).

⁴ *Second Report and Order*, 20 FCC Rcd at 6810-11.